

## New-Politics Group Votes to Enter Races In Key States in '68

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CHICAGO, Sept. 3 — The National New Politics Convention decided today to sponsor a kind of optional campaign against President Johnson next year, running one or more candidates against him in a handful of key states.

The decision was reached early this morning after eight hours of debate and the rejection of any attempt to form a third party, dedicated to peace in Vietnam, that would nominate a single ticket to run in all 50 states.

Like almost all decisions reached by the gathering of radicals, this was subject to sudden change. Convention leaders passed the word that the Black Caucus, representing most of the 600 Negro delegates here, would press for stronger political action.

### Promise of Liberation

In a speech to the 2,000 delegates, James Forman, director of the national office of the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee, made the strongest demand for separate Negro political action under full Negro control that the convention had yet heard.

"We and we alone have the responsibility to wage our own war of liberation as we see fit," Mr. Forman declared. "No one, absolutely no one in the world or the United States, has

the right to dictate to us the forms of our struggle.

"We insist on our right to define the manner in which we will fight our aggressors. It is our right, our responsibility, and anyone who does not like it can go to hell."

"The dispossessed must assume direction and give leadership to the new politics," Mr. Forman continued to cheers from both white and Negro delegates. "If you're not going to support us, you go your merry way, and we're going to liberate you whether you want to be liberated or not."

Although the convention was not in formal session, Mr. Forman asked for and got voice and standing votes in favor of resolutions, which he introduced personally, against the Union of South Africa for racism and colonialism and against the General Motors Corporation for operating in South Africa.

When a white girl delegate rose in the aisle and called "point of order," Mr. Forman replied: "There are no points of order."

Someone shouted, "Is this a dictatorship?" and the S.N.C.C. leader said, "Yes, and I'm the dictator."

At that, about two dozen white delegates walked out of the Palmer House ballroom in protest. Mr. Forman then insisted he had only been joking.

### Doesn't Need to Apologize

"Jesus Christ, can't we have a little fun?" he asked. "Because I said I'm the dictator, don't take me too seriously—but I don't need to apologize."

Mr. Forman's chief prediction was that Negro political action in the nation's major cities "will destroy the effectiveness of the Democratic party."

Dressed in an African white tunic, he was flanked by two Negro bodyguards as he spoke.

Early today the delegates voted to confine the National Conference on New Politics to local organizing in 1968. But the vote was so close—13,519 to 13,517—that the winning plan was amended to include authorization for an independent Presidential ticket in some states.

Convention officials expected that such opposition to President Johnson would probably be undertaken in Massachusetts, Connecticut, New York, New Jersey, Michigan and California and perhaps a few other states.

Followers in the states might all run the same candidate, or choose different favorite sons to run. There would be no obligation on any of the conference's organizations to support the ticket.

### Loss of Support Seen

Adoption by the convention yesterday of a statement drafted by Negroes condemning "the imperialistic Zionist war" between Israel and the Arab states appeared likely today to weaken any political activity in 1968 by the radical movement.

Convention leaders predicted that it would be much harder than in past years to raise campaign funds because a number of Jews are ordinarily major contributors.

One of the principal financial supporters of this convention, Martin Peretz, a Harvard sociology professor, left the floor after the anti-Zionist stand was adopted and returned briefly today, only to walk out during the protest against Mr. Forman.

Theodore Weiss, New York City Councilman, said in an interview that he found the statement on Israel "noxious" and added, "You don't achieve your dignity by trampling on other people's."

Mr. Weiss also criticized the convention's acceptance without change of the demands of the Black Caucus as no different from "Tammany district captains 30 years ago taking orders from the bosses."

### The Manhattan reform Demo-

crat said he had come to Chicago hoping the New Politics forces would organize to defeat President Johnson but found the delegates here exhibiting "utter disdain for the political process" needed to achieve that goal.

With respect to its freely expressed hostility toward the press, the convention curiously resembled right-wing gatherings. The radicals repeatedly suggested that the real story of their activities was not getting through and applauded all criticism of the press.

Although Senator Robert F. Kennedy is widely regarded in more conventional political circles as a favorite of the young left, the New Yorker has proved nearly as unpopular among delegates here as President Johnson.

Asked if Senator Kennedy fitted into the New Politics, Simon Casady of the California Democratic Council replied, "Hell, no!" Another convention leader said, "There are more C.I.A. agents here than Kennedy people."